

Rejoinder of the groups of the invention is proper because the light-scattering sheet of claim 1 of Group II and the process for producing a light-scattering sheet of claim 19 of Group I are so intimately related that no undue burden is placed upon the Examiner. That is, independent claim 19 contains all the limitations of independent claim 1 and a finding of allowability of independent claim 1 (of Group II) would also result in independent claim 19 (of Group I) to be instantly allowable.

Accordingly, examination of all of the claims of the invention on the merits is respectfully requested. In the event that the Examiner chooses to not immediately rejoin the claims, Applicants submit that once allowable subject matter is found for the product claims, and providing the method of making claims include the same allowable subject matter, the Examiner should rejoin the claims.

MPEP §821.04.

Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert E. Goozner, Ph.D. (Reg. No. 42,593) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By  #42,874
for Gerald M. Murphy, Jr., #28,977

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

GMM/REG:jls
2224-0193P

(Rev. 01/02/02)